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| 10/569,206 | 04/04/2006 | Chrystelle Langlais | 21029-00309-US1 | 2033 |
| 30678 7590 09/29/2009 CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP 1875 EYE STREET, N.W. SUITE 1100 WASHINGTON, DC 20006 | | | | |
| EXAMINER MENON, KRISHNAN S | | | | |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Advisory Action

The amendment is not entered because it does not place the application in condition for allowance or reduce the issues for appeal.

Regarding the arguments, all arguments submitted were considered in the earlier actions.

All references teach adding the floc upstream of the membrane filtration.

Argument that paragraph 0010 of the JP reference teaches adding salt is not relevant to the issue – paragraph 0010 teaches adding salt in relation to making the hollow fiber membrane. Moreover, having salt in the water does not disqualify the reference; applicant's claims do not exclude salt in the water.

Regarding the references not teaching the 2g/L, this was considered in the rejection.

Regarding the floc in the claims being from a different or external source: the source of the floc does not add to patentability.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krishnan S. Menon whose telephone number is 571-272-1143. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vickie Kim can be reached on 571-272-0579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Krishnan S Menon/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797